

**Attorney General
Minister for Justice
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Environment
Minister for the Arts**

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Mr Quentin Smith
President
Seymour Community Action Group Inc
scagi7215@gmail.com

27 SEP 2018

Dear Mr Smith

As the Minister now responsible for the reservation and acquisition of land, I am responding to your proposal to consider a change in the status of the property containing Seymour Wetland from public reserve to conservation area.

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) has assessed the proposal against the criteria set out in the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (the Act) and has consulted the Director of National Parks and Wildlife in accordance with Section 10 of the Act.

The advice I have received indicates that, despite the great work done by the Seymour Community Action Group Inc (SCAGI), the property is currently still in a partially degraded condition due to the presence of gorse and other declared weeds. Because of this the proposal to change the land classification to conservation area is not currently supported at this time.

I do want to acknowledge that the Deputy Secretary, Parks and Wildlife (PWS) has informed me of the outstanding work that the SCAGI has done on the property to improve its conservation value and assures me that PWS will continue to work with your organisation to continue improving the property.

I would encourage you to continue this collaborative work and to please contact me again when the weed infestation has been reduced to a small percentage of the property, so that the Department can reassess the proposal and possibly then recommend the change you desire.

Yours sincerely



Hon Elise Archer MP
Minister for Environment